

description. All changes, which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims, are to be embraced within their scope.

What is claimed is:

1. A mobile monitoring device comprising:
- a controller;
- a transceiver in electronic communication with the controller, the transceiver capable of communicating with a user transceiver;
- 5 at least one sensor in electronic communication with the controller, wherein the sensor is monitoring a condition of the property or a condition proximate to the monitoring device; and
- a communications interface in electronic communication with the controller and the transceiver, the communications interface configured to provide audible information
- 10 that may be transmitted to the user transceiver by the transceiver.
2. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 wherein the monitoring device is configured to execute programming commands received from the user transceiver.
- 15 3. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 wherein the communications interface comprises a voice menu system.
4. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 3 wherein the voice menu system comprises a DTMF detector.
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5. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 3 wherein the voice menu system is configured to decode DTMF tones received from the user transceiver.

6. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 3 wherein the voice menu system comprises a voice synthesizer.

7. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 3 wherein the voice menu system comprises a voice recognition system.

8. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 7 wherein the voice recognition system comprises an internal microphone.

9. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 3 wherein the voice menu system is capable of recognizing audible words received from the user transceiver.

10. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 wherein the monitoring device further comprises memory.

11. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising a real-time clock.

12. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising a microphone that is configured to gather the sounds proximate to the monitoring device.

5 13. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising a camera that is configured to view the area proximate to the monitoring device.

14. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 wherein the sensor is selected from the group consisting of a motion sensor, a shock sensor, an audible/sound sensor, a humidity sensor, a fire sensor, a temperature sensor, a detachment sensor, a motion sensor, a smoke sensor, a video sensor, a magnetic sensor, a freezing sensor, an overheating sensor, a weight sensor, a chemical sensor, a radiation sensor, a glass break sensor, an intrusion sensor, a carbon monoxide sensor, a poison sensor, a vibration sensor, and a light sensor.

15 15. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising a display module.

16. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising a low-battery sensor, a primary battery, and a secondary battery.

17. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising an RF transmitter.

5 18. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising a GPS device.

19. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising a receptor that allows the monitoring device to communicate with an external security device.

10 20. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising a speaker, and wherein the monitoring device is configured to play audible sounds on the speaker received from the transceiver in order to allow a user to transmit audible sounds to the area proximate to the monitoring device.

15 21. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising an alarm system.

20 22. A mobile monitoring system as in claim 21 wherein the alarm system comprises a siren.

23. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising lights configured to illuminate the area proximate to the monitoring device.

5 24. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising an information storage unit.

25. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising an interrupt controller.

10 26. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising a key press interface.

15 27. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 1 further comprising a sound generator.

28. A mobile monitoring device for monitoring property comprising:
a controller;
a transceiver in electronic communication with the controller, the transceiver
capable of communicating with a user transceiver;

5 a plurality of sensors in electronic communication with the controller, the sensors
configured to monitor a change in a condition of the property; and

a communications interface in electronic communication with the controller and
the transceiver, the communications interface comprising a voice menu system that is
configured to provide audible information that may be transmitted to the user transceiver
10 by the transceiver,

wherein the monitoring device is further configured such that it is capable of
executing programming commands received from the user transceiver.

29. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 wherein the voice menu system
15 comprises a DTMF detector.

30. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 wherein the voice menu system
further comprises a voice recognition system.

31. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 wherein the voice menu system comprises a voice synthesizer.

32. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 wherein the monitoring device further comprises memory.

33. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 further comprising a real-time clock.

34. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 further comprising a tracking device.

35. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 further comprising a low-battery sensor, a primary battery, and a secondary battery.

36. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 further comprising an alarm system.

37. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 further comprising lights configured to illuminate the area proximate to the monitoring device.

38. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 further comprising a speaker.

39. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 further comprising a
5 microphone that is configured to allow a user to listen to the sounds proximate to the
monitoring device.

40. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 further comprising a camera
that is configured to allow a user to view the area proximate to the monitoring device.
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41. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 wherein the monitoring device
is configured to send a confirmation to the user transceiver confirming that the
programming command has been properly executed.

42. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 further comprising an
15 information storage unit, a camera, and a microphone, the storage unit being configured
to store information gathered by a device selected from the group consisting of the
sensors, the camera, and the microphone.

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43. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 further comprising an interrupt controller.

5 44. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 further comprising a key press interface.

10 45. A mobile monitoring device as in claim 28 further comprising a sound generator.

46. A method of improving security of property using a mobile programmable monitoring device comprising a controller, a transceiver capable of communicating with a user transceiver, at least one sensor, and a communications interface in electronic communication with the controller and the transceiver, the method comprising:

5 monitoring a condition of the property with the programmable monitoring device;
 contacting the user transceiver with the transceiver if the monitoring device
detects a change in a condition of the property; and
 providing information related to the condition of the property that is transmitted to
the user transceiver by the transceiver.

10 47. The method of claim 46 further comprising the step of activating a
tracking transmitter to facilitate locating the monitoring device.

15 48. The method of claim 46 further comprising the step of executing a
programming command received from the user transceiver.

20 49. The method of claim 48 further comprising the step of sending a
confirmation to the user transceiver to confirm that the programming command has been
executed.

50. The method of claim 48 wherein the programming command is a command to activate or deactivate a sensor.

51. The method of claim 48 wherein the programming command is a command to activate or deactivate an alarm.

52. The method of claim 48 wherein the programming command is a command to reset the monitoring device.

53. The method of claim 48 wherein the programming command is a command to turn the monitoring device on or off at a selected time.

54. The method of claim 48 wherein the programming command is a command to activate or deactivate a microphone.

55. The method of claim 48 wherein the programming command is a command to activate or deactivate a camera.

56. The method of claim 46 further comprising the step of verifying a password prior to providing information to the user transceiver.

57. The method of claim 46 further comprising the step of reviewing the information provided to the user transceiver.

5 58. The method of claim 46 wherein the communications interface is a voice menu system.

59. A method for programming a programmable mobile monitoring device comprising a controller, a transceiver capable of communicating with a user transceiver, at least one sensor, and a communications interface in electronic communication with the controller and the transceiver, the method comprising:

5 contacting the programmable mobile monitoring device with the user transceiver;
 establishing communication between the user transceiver and the monitoring device; and

 using the user transceiver to issue a programming command that may be executed by the monitoring device.

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60. The method of claim 59 further comprising the step of sending a confirmation to the user transceiver to confirm that the programming command has been executed.

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61. The method of claim 59 further comprising the step of using the voice menu system to provide audible information to the user transceiver after a communication has been established.

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62. The method of claim 59 wherein the monitoring device further comprises at least one input device, the monitoring device further comprising an information storage

unit that is capable of storing information gathered by the at least one sensor and the at least one input device.

63. The method of claim 59 wherein the monitoring device further comprises
5 a sound generator designed such that the controller may interface with the transceiver via sound that are produced by the sound generator.

64. The method of claim 59 wherein the monitoring device further comprises
a key pad interface designed such that the controller may interface with the transceiver via
10 the key pad interface.

65. The method of claim 59 wherein the monitoring device further comprises
an internal RF sensor that is positioned proximate a transceiver antenna.

66. The method of claim 65 wherein the RF sensor is designed to allow the
15 monitoring device to receive progress information regarding telephone calls that are made or received by the transceiver.